

Zia-ul-Haque meets Bhutto

RAWALPINDI, July 15 (AFP). — Pakistan's strongman, Gen. Zia-ul-Haque, today met former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto deposed by a military coup ten days ago. He also met the president of the nine-party Pakistan National Alliance (PNA). This was Gen. Zia-ul-Haque's first meeting with political leaders since the military take-over on July 5. An official statement said Gen. Zia-ul-Haque discussed the country's political situation with Mr. Bhutto and the PNA leader. The general met the politicians in their "protective custody" at Murree Hill station, about 65 kms. north of here, Gen. Zia-ul-Haque promised to organise fresh polls next October.

Jordan Times

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Brooklyn policeman states

New York destruction is like Berlin after allied bombing in 1945

NEW YORK, July 15 (R). — Full power supplies returned slowly and uncertainly to New York city today after a total blackout which paralysed the nation's biggest metropolis.

The 10 million New Yorkers, who had sweated without air conditioners or lights as looters rampaged through sections of the city, were left wondering how it had happened. Mayor Abraham Beame angrily accused Consolidated Edison, suppliers of the city's electricity, of "gross negligence", but company chairman Charles Luce blamed a "peculiar series of events".

The city was plunged into darkness on Wednesday night when a big electric generator, called "Big Alis", failed through overloading at a time of peak demand during a thunderstorm.

One policeman in Brooklyn said the destruction was like Berlin after the allied bombing of World War II -- but there was little prospect of an economic renaissance of New

York's ghettos like the one that restored post-war Germany.

No official monetary estimate of the damage was available, although \$1 billion did not seem excessive to observers who had seen the hardest-hit areas.

At least 100 policemen were injured in clashes with looters. More than 20 firemen were hurt battling hundreds of blazes. A two-month-old infant died in one fire.

At Bellevue, the giant public hospital in Manhattan, one critically ill woman kept alive on a respirator died despite efforts by doctors to provide artificial respiration.

Most business and banks remained closed yesterday as power supplies began to return slowly, neighbourhood by neighbourhood.

Pockets of the city remained without electricity early today and intermittent cuts recurred in places where power had been restored.

The blackout, far more traumatic in terms of lawlessness than the last big power failure of 1965, was also a sobering reminder to New Yorkers of their dependence on electricity.

With trains piled up in the absence of traffic lights, in addition to lights and air-conditioners, New Yorkers had to do without their electric elevators, stoves, refrigerators, toasters, coffee-makers or typewriters.

In many cases, they were also without the water which pumped electrically into apartment blocks.

Restaurants and food suppliers had to throw out huge quantities of food which had gone bad in uncooled freezers.

Radio stations, warning of the dangers of rancid food or unscrupulous food sellers, broadcast details of the symptoms of common food poisoning.

Appeals were also made for blood donors, since some plasma stocks were ruined when the power went off.

Mayor Beame told a press conference the effect of the blackout on New York's near-bankrupt financial position would be serious. He said he was setting up a special board to investigate the power failure.

Mr. Luce said Consolidated Edison would hold its own full inquiry and would appoint a "blue-ribbon panel of the ablest consultants" to seek ways of preventing any future cuts.

Mr. Luce said he expected the company would receive a number of law suits as a result of the blackout. But he said he was confident that gross negligence would not be established and Con Ed would defend the suits successfully.

According to Con Ed officials, its supply system became overloaded after lightning from the thunderstorm on Wednesday forced a power plant at Buchanan, north of New York city, to close down.

In an effort to reduce the load, the company reduced voltage twice -- by five per cent and by three per cent -- and then deliberately cut off the suburban towns of Yonkers, Mount Vernon and Elmsford.

But this proved insufficient and at 21.34 local the "Big Alis" generator in New York city failed, switching off the city.



EXPLOSION -- Parisians gather in front of South African Airways offices damaged by an explosion caused by a gasoline can bomb Thursday. Witnesses said an unidentified man on a motor cycle is thought to have thrown the can into the offices. Nobody was hurt in the incident, police said. (AP wirephoto).

Sarkis, Palestinians agree to set up permanent coordinating committee

BEIRUT, July 15 (Agencies). — President Elias Sarkis and Palestinian leaders today agreed to set up a permanent coordinating committee to settle difficulties in relations between the Palestinians and Lebanese, an informed Palestinian source said here.

The source said President Sarkis held a two-hour meeting today with Fatah Central Committee member Abu Iyad, Bassem Akl, Palestine Liberation Organisation representative at the United Nations, and Palestinian Lt. Nizar Ammar.

The committee has been made responsible for dealing with all outstanding questions between the Lebanese and Palestinian to establish a timetable for implementing the 1969 Cairo agreement on the status of Palestinians in Lebanon, the source said.

The membership of the committee was not known and the source said it would not begin functioning until after the return from Damascus of Lebanon's foreign minister Fuad Butros.

President Sarkis and the Palestinians also discussed the situation in southern Lebanon, the scene of fighting between rightwing Lebanese and Palestinians and leaving Lebanese, the source said.

Soon after the meeting, the Central Committee of Fatah met here. Chairing the meeting was PLO chief Yasser Arafat, who had just returned from a visit to Saudi Arabia.

The meeting heard a report from Abu Iyad on his contacts with President Sarkis and with Syrian President Hafez Assad on Lebanese-Palestinian relations, the source said.

Meanwhile Mr. Fuad Butros left here today for Damascus for talks with Syrian leaders in the course of a tour which has already taken him to Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

His Syrian visit is expected to last two days during which the minister is expected to brief Syrian leaders on the results of his talks in the three Arab countries concerning the situation in south Lebanon.

Mr. Butros was also expected to discuss the full implementation of the 1969 Cairo agreement.

In a separate development, travellers from south Lebanon said today that Israeli warplanes today made repeated flights over the border area, breaking the sound barrier several times.

They also reported an exchange of artillery fire in the eastern sector of the front, including a rightist-controlled Marjayoun and leftist-held Nabatieh.

The central sector of the Bint Jbeil area was reported calm but tense after overnight shelling, the travellers said.

No casualties were reported but crops were damaged, they added.

Occupied Jerusalem, July 15 (R). — An explosive charge, apparently fired by Arab guerrillas blew up tonight on an empty pavement near the old walled city of Jerusalem, but there were no casualties, a police spokesman said here.

He said a car which was waiting at a nearby red light was slightly damaged, but its occupants were unhurt.

Police, which rushed to the scene, closed off the area and safely blew up another charge which they found a short distance away. The charges were made up of mortar shells connected to timing devices.

It was the first guerrilla incident in occupied Jerusalem for several months, but an explosion rocked a vegetable market near Tel Aviv last week killing one woman and wounding 23 others. An Arab guerrilla organisation took responsibility for the action.

Swedish police think they hold top man in Japanese Red Army

STOCKHOLM, July 15 (R). — Swedish police said today they hoped soon to establish beyond doubt the identity of a Japanese under interrogation here on suspicion of being the brains behind the Japanese Red Army guerrilla movement.

They said the man identified by Tokyo authorities as Takemoto Takahashi, a former university professor -- was on their terrorist list and that they have asked the government to deport him.

He was detained on Tuesday near the site outside Stockholm where oil ministers from the 13 OPEC member states were meeting. Police suspected a guerrilla operation might be planned -- in 1975 guerrillas abducted 10 ministers from a conference in Vienna of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Officials here said Tokyo police wanted the man back in Japan but they had so far not received a formal request for his extradition.

Security officials said the man had travelled on a forged Dutch passport but was refusing to answer questions about his identity or his reason for being in Sweden.

However, police said they do not doubt that the man is who Japanese authorities say he is -- a 24-year-old former assistant professor of French literature at Tokyo's Rikkyo University.

They said everything was being done to expedite his deportation but there were complex legal and civil requirements that might take another day or two.

"The deportation may take place later tonight but Monday is more probable," a Justice Ministry official said.

Ministry officials said Japanese authorities had been in contact today with the Swedish Foreign Ministry and security police.

In Tokyo, police said Takahashi had resigned his university position in 1970. He had no criminal record in Japan but he had been expelled from France in 1973 following the arrest of a Red Army group.

Police here refused to say whether the man was armed or how long they thought he had been in the country.

Police here arrested a group of alleged urban guerrillas in March and said they were preparing to kidnap a woman politician as hostage for members of the Baader-Meinhof group in West German jails.

Two Germans in the group were deported to West Germany. Other detainees were flown to Cuba and Britain.

PLO to issue Palestinian passports

Cairo, July 15 (Agencies). — The Palestine Liberation Organisation has asked the Arab League to recognise passports it plans to issue for all Palestinians, an Arab League spokesman said today.

The PLO request will be discussed at an Arab League Council scheduled to meet here on July 25, the spokesman said.

The mass-circulation newspaper Al Akhbar today said the passport issue was a "needed step before the proclamation of a Palestinian state."

The PLO note mentioned that non-aligned countries and other socialist states had already agreed to recognise the proposed Palestinian passports, the spokesman added.

The League may rule, observers said, that before issuing passports, the PLO needs the status of a government-in-exile, which can be decided only by a meeting of the National Palestinian Council, the PLO's parliament-like assembly.

"The home minister's recent statement about an alleged plan (or 'thinking') in my government to shoot down leaders of the opposition in jail is shocking and preposterous and has no basis whatsoever."

Mrs. Gandhi added that in her election speeches she had expressed regret for any excesses committed during the emergency and her deep sympathy for those who were subjected to hardships.

She said: "I hope that the leaders of the Janata Party will at least now address themselves to the more serious and mounting problems affecting different sections of the people."

Gandhi denies Janata allegation that she planned to slay opponents

NEW DELHI, July 15 (R). — Former Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi today broke a self-imposed public silence on political topics and issued a statement strongly denying allegations that her government had considered killing its political opponents.

She described the allegations, made in the Lok Sabha (lower house) this week by Home Minister Charan Singh, as shocking, preposterous and without any basis whatsoever, Samachar News Agency reported.

Mr. Charan Singh's remarks provoked a walk-out from parliament by the Congress Party yesterday. He stated that the

former government had made preparations to shoot down imprisoned leaders of the then opposition during the emergency, if necessary. He later qualified this to say there was no plan or proposal to kill but merely what he called a thought.

Mrs. Gandhi said in her statement today that she had deliberately decided to keep away from politics and publicity.

"However, I find that some leaders of the Janata Party government are determined to pursue their smear campaign of character assassination inside and outside parliament so as to denigrate not only me but the Congress Party as a whole," she said.

Moscow sides with Albania against China

MOSCOW, July 15 (R). — The official Soviet news agency TASS today took Albania's side in its doctrinal dispute with China, but said the Albanian leaders still pursued their usual enmities against the Soviet Union. TASS was reporting on a 10,000-word article in the Albanian Communist Party daily Zeri i Popullit which attacked the policies of Peking -- hitherto Albania's closest ally. The article, published earlier this month, criticised China's policy towards "the two imperialist superpowers" -- the Soviet Union and the United States -- and its theories about the Third World.

Begin to tell Carter he wants exchange of diplomatic relations with Arab countries

NEW YORK, July 15 (Agencies). — Israeli Premier Menachem Begin arrived here today carrying with him a written Middle Eastern peace plan calling for the exchange of ambassadors between Israel and the Arab states which he will lay before President Jimmy Carter when they meet in Washington early next week.

Mr. Begin, who is visiting the U.S. less than two months after taking power, is the first Israeli prime minister to carry written proposals with him to Washington. Before leaving Tel Aviv, he said he hoped his plans "will make it possible to begin negotiations on a peace agreement."

The Israeli plan envisages negotiations leading to a formal peace treaty with the Arabs that would include open borders and diplomatic and trade relations. In return, Israel would be prepared to evacuate a large portion of the Israeli-occupied Sinai and about half of the Golan heights territory seized from Syria during the 1967 war.

The Israeli plan calls for a "functional solution" to the problem of the Israeli-occupied West Bank. This would involve dividing responsibility for administration between the Arabs of the West Bank and Jordan but with Israel retaining responsibility for security there.

It seems hard to believe, according to observers in Israel, that the Americans will support this plan. It is thought, however, that an open break between Mr. Begin and President

Carter can be averted at this stage.

Mr. Begin, who has called for a resumption of the Geneva Middle East peace talks on Oct. 10, said earlier that all problems can be negotiated, including the West Bank and the status of Jerusalem. Some of his advisers, notably his adviser on information Shmuel Katz, have said that if no other road to peace was open, Israel could also contemplate evacuation of other territories, including land on the West Bank.

Mr. Begin has said that his peace plan covers the entire range of the Arab-Israeli conflict. He also indicated that he had two fall-back plans as well.

Mr. Begin made it clear before leaving Israel that he was going to Washington as the spokesman for all Israelis and not merely as the head of a coalition government headed by his own rightwing Likud Party.

He noted that he had lengthy talks with former Premier Golda Meir and had consulted the leaders of the two opposition parties, Labour leader Shimon Peres and ex-Gen. Yigael Yadin, head of the Democratic Movement for Change.

Mr. Begin asked all Israelis to pray for the success of his mission to Washington. He has brought with him several of former Labour Party Premier Yitzhak Rabin's aides, a move intended to show that the new premier is willing to go as far as Labour in the sea-

rch for a settlement.

But Israel's notion of what a peace treaty will involve is likely to prove a major obstacle. Mr. Begin said in Tel Aviv today he sought "complete normalisation of relations with the Arab states so that an Israeli ambassador will be sent to Damascus and Arab diplomats (will) serve in Israel."

This goes far beyond what the most moderate Arab leaders are prepared to concede. Egypt's President Anwar Sadat has said that a peace treaty could only be possible five years after Israel had evacuated all occupied Arab territory and that there would first be an agreement ending a state of war in the region.

If initial negotiations on a permanent peace ran into trouble, Mr. Begin would most likely be willing to settle for a further interim agreement, officials close to the prime minister said.

Some Israeli diplomats believed Israel would like the Washington talks to lead to separate preliminary negotiations between Israel and each of the Arab states most closely involved -- Egypt, Syria and Jordan.

These sources said the most suitable medium for such negotiations would be U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, who is due to visit the Middle East at the end of this month.

Mr. Begin is expected to meet U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and spend the weekend in private talks with Jewish American leaders here before flying on to Washington.

Report from Beirut says

Fierce battles rage around Asmara

BEIRUT, July 15 (Agencies). — Fierce battles are raging around Asmara, capital of Ethiopia's northern Province of Eritrea, one of the territory's liberation movements announced here today.

The Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) said in a statement the battles were raging at Wekiduba, 3 kms. southwest of Asmara and Tsaba-Kristian, 10 kms. west of the city.

Three attacks by Ethiopian forces based in Asmara were beaten back. The Ethiopians returned with more reinforcements to make a further attack on Tuesday and the battle was continuing, the statement said.

It said there were high casualties on the Ethiopian side, but no figures were available.

Large Ethiopian forces are concentrating at Numera and Shire on the regional borders between Eritrea and the rest of Ethiopia and Ethiopian aircraft are making attacks near Agordat and Barentu in western Eritrea. Both towns are under heavy attack by Eritrean liberation forces, the statement said.

From Khartoum it was reported today that another liberation group, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF), has established its administration in the city of Keren after capturing it last Friday from the Ethiopian army.

A Belgian journalist, Mrs. Colette Braeckman of the Belgian daily, Le Soir, who entered Keren only a few hours

after it fell to the EPLF, said that civilian life in the city was now normal.

She said that many Ethiopian soldiers were killed and 501 others captured during the fighting which lasted 72 hours.

Keren is the third largest city in Eritrea, after Asmara and Assab. It has a population of 20,000. With the fall of Keren, there are only two important cities remaining in the hands of the Ethiopians -- Asmara and Assab.

Mrs. Braeckman said that she also visited the EPLF military camps and told of 3,000 captured Ethiopian soldiers who, she said, were being well-treated by their captors. She added: "The problem the EPLF is having now is the ever-increasing number of captured Ethiopian soldiers."

Political sources said it might take several months before a new government is formed.

Mr. van Agt was among several party leaders who consulted with Queen Juliana.

In 1973, it took over five months of bargaining before Mr. den Uyl succeeded in putting a cabinet together.

His party increased its seats 43 to 53 in the 150-seat Lower House last May to become the biggest party, followed by the Christian Democrats (CDA) with 49.

Mr. den Uyl might be asked to try again to form a government after the queen has completed her talks with party leaders, the sources said.

Alternatively, the queen may ask Mr. van Agt to forge a new government or else she may appoint a political elder statesman as a go-between to find a solution to the problem.

Mr. van Agt's Christian Democrats would have a slim majority of two in the Lower House if they teamed up with the Liberal Party (VVD), the only other large group in parliament. The latter has 28 seats.

Mr. den Uyl said he was bitterly disappointed by the collapse of his efforts. He admitted defeat last night after Christian Democrat leader Andreas van Agt blocked Socialist plans to introduce a profit-sharing scheme for industrial workers.

Mr. den Uyl considers the scheme essential to obtain agreement from the trade unions to moderate their wage demands.

Demirel hits snags in attempt to regain power

ANKARA, July 15 (R). — Premier-designate Suleyman Demirel today seemed to be running into snags in his efforts to form another rightwing coalition and regain power in Turkey.

Mr. Demirel, named 11 days ago to form a government, has been engaged in bargaining with the leaders of two smaller parties which shared power with him until last month's inconclusive general election.

Problems became apparent today with the postponement of a meeting with Mr. Necmettin Erbakan, leader of the Islamic National Salvation Party (NSP), and Mr. Alparslan Turgutreisli, leader of the Nationalist Movement Party (MHP).

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Begin can't deliver

Mr. Menachem Begin has arrived in the United States with a peace plan in his pocket that most observers are predicting will not work. Although details of the plan have not yet been released, what has been leaked to the press is that Mr. Begin will, in a nutshell, be proposing total normalisation of relations between the Arab states and Israel in return for partial withdrawal from Sinai and the Golan Heights and maintaining a military hold on the West Bank while perhaps allowing Jordan to administer the civil affairs of the population.

Reports have been circulating that Mr. Begin might be willing to restrict (although not halt) Jewish settlements for an interim period and eventually to give back parts of the West Bank or Gaza if a firm peace does take hold in five or ten years time.

For a phased withdrawal plan to be remotely feasible, the Arabs would demand a guarantee, some form of prior commitment, that Israel would in fact be prepared for a full withdrawal within a set deadline following the conclusion of an agreement. They would also insist that full normalisation of relations cannot be concluded until such time as withdrawal is complete.

Such a compromise could be worked out if Mr. Begin's intransigence were a bargaining position rather than a final one. Unfortunately, it isn't. Even then, one paramount consideration would remain: the Palestinians.

It is clear that Mr. Begin intends to relegate the entire Palestinian issue to the background if not to limbo. The Palestinians will not be bought off with offers of compensation or a limited form of home rule under Israeli military overlordship. It is questionable that they will be content with a promise of self-government in a decade's time. It is certain they will not be satisfied with a gouged out mini-homeland.

The Arabs could not conceivably agree to the maximal Israeli demand of full normalisation of relations in return for minimal withdrawal; and every indication is that minimal withdrawal is all that Mr. Begin has to offer -- now or in the future.

So the stage is set for an unyielding stalemate. Mr. Carter cannot persuade Mr. Begin to alter his position all the way. Mr. Begin cannot bend back that far. The only hope is for a split in Mr. Begin's ruling Likud bloc and a realignment of forces inside Israel. It is feasible, although not probable, that the Liberals within the Likud bloc, who don't quite see eye to eye with Mr. Begin on the West Bank issue, might desert Likud and seek an alliance with the Democratic Movement for change. But for that to happen, the United States would have to exert sufficient pressure for the alliance to snap.

Some realignment must take place within Israel. Begin cannot deliver the goods, so someone else has to. Otherwise the Middle East is in for another round of warfare.

Torture, a flawed defence: The Sunday Times answers Israel's protestations of innocence

EDITOR'S NOTE:

On June 19, the Sunday Times ran a detailed account of the torture and ill-treatment of Arab detainees under interrogation in the Israeli occupied territories. Last week, the government of Israel replied to the report by the Sunday Times' Insight team, denying that torture was used at all.

Insight answered Israel's denials in an article that appeared in the Sunday Times on July 10. We shall be running that article in two installments, starting today. In tomorrow's paper, we shall also reprint three letters to the Sunday Times on the same subject. Two of the letters are by Felicia Langer and Lea Tsemel, who have defended many Arabs detained on security charges in Israel. The third letter is by a former Israeli soldier, relating two incidents he witnessed.

The original Sunday Times report was reprinted in the Jordan Times in several installments from June 24-July 1.

ISRAEL'S reply to our investigation dealt with the central points by flat denial, rather than with detailed evidence: it raised side-issues; it devoted great energy to attacking two of its own citizens who were by no means our principal witnesses (Felicia Langer and Lea Tsemel, lawyers who have defended a number of Arabs in Israeli military courts); it contained a number of untruths. This article is divided into a brief summary of our original statement, the Israeli response in italic and then Insight's comment on that response.

The TV show that never was

OMAR ABDUL KARIM: Section One of our original report discussed the case of Omar Abdul Karim. He was arrested, a fit man, on Oct. 3, 1976 and deported to Jordan on a stretcher last February, after five months in the hands of Israeli security forces. He told an appalling story of brutality during interrogation. We examined the corroborative evidence. We also pointed to the weaknesses in his story "which make it fall short of final proof." But we pointed to the disquieting fact that the Israeli military authorities had sought to conceal how brief a time Abdul Karim had been in their hands.

Israel: Abdul Karim was ill before his arrest.

Insight: Not true. He was fit, happy and holding down a job as a carpenter. He did have old rib fractures, and occasional pains in his chest and back; for these he went sometimes as an out-patient to an orthopaedic hospital. By contrast, he left Israeli hands a stretcher case.

Israel: His state on release was not that bad: "Two days after being released from prison in a state where he couldn't recognise his brother" he happily appeared at a press conference and on Jordanian television.

Insight: Not true. The director general of Jordanian TV, Mohammad Kamal, says: "I have personally searched through all our records. There was

no such interview." Nor was there a press conference. Summoned by the hospital doctor in Jordan, two reporters went to Abdul Karim's bedside, one from Reuters and the other Daniel Southernland of the Christian Science Monitor. Southernland recalls that Abdul Karim was mostly in bed, propping himself on one elbow to talk: "He was rather weak and frail and very thin, and obviously suffering physical pain." He had "difficulty walking" even with a cane. "Seen from the rear... he looked like an old man," Southernland wrote at the time. And he concluded that Abdul Karim had been "badly beaten."

Israel: Insight is guilty of "another classic case of a half truth" in concealing Abdul Karim's previous convictions.

Insight: In fact, we pointed out that he had been in the fedayeen -- a factor which we said militated against his credibility. And we reported his previous sentence. We concede that we inadvertently listed only the lesser charge in that case and not his concurrent convictions for complicity in causing two explosions. (Abdul Karim, however, admits his guilt on the charge we cited, possessing a revolver; but denies involvement in the explosions.)

Israel: Abdul Karim gave a "long and detailed statement" of guilt during his five-month detention, which was corroborated by his nephew.

Insight: Abdul Karim's version of how the Israelis tried to force such a statement out of him and his nephew occupies 17 pages of our transcript. Even if such a statement existed, therefore, it would be unimpressive unless the allegations of torture are disproved. But, in fact, Abdul Karim denies giving anything like the Israelis allege.

Israel's details seem odd. Israel alleges, for instance, a meeting between Abdul Karim and another fedayeen in Amman sometime after June 1972; and a trip to Damascus by Abdul Karim's nephew. But the man Abdul Karim supposedly met in Amman has lived in Syria since the end of 1970 and is forbidden to enter Jordan. And Abdul Karim's nephew was too young to have a Jordanian passport, so how did he

get to Damascus? Certainly not on Israeli-issued papers.

Finally, if Abdul Karim made this confession, why was he never charged?

Israel: Detonators were found in Abdul Karim's room and other, unspecified "damning evidence" in his sewage pit.

Insight: Abdul Karim denies this. The Israelis never alleged it to his lawyer at the time. And since Abdul Karim remained in Israeli custody for about four months after his alleged confession and the search, the question is again: Why was he not charged during this time?

The open cells which are closed

Israel: The Reuters report that Abdul Karim, at the time of deportation, was a convicted guerrilla released after serving three years of an 11-year sentence was Reuters' own mistake.

Insight: Not true. Reuters published what the Israelis told them. Insight charged the Israeli military authorities with misleading Reuters when they asked about Abdul Karim's condition so as to discredit his story. The point has still not been met.

The facts remain. Omar Abdul Karim, an active man of 35, was deported "an old man" on a stretcher after five months in Israeli hands, during which time he was charged with no offence. What happened to him? We challenge Israel to release the reports on Abdul Karim's condition made by the International Red Cross delegate Bernard Munger.

BACKGROUND. In Section Two, "The Judgment of the World," we examined the political background. We cited "Arab resistance expressed sometimes through terrorism," and showed how that had come in waves. We pointed out that "Israel claims -- and undoubtedly feels itself -- to be at war for its life," but that Israel, for the sake of its international reputation, was reluctant to have political detainees.

Hence the pressure to get evidence on which suspects could be convicted; and so, we postulated, the introduction of ill-treatment and torture as

Absurdity's loophole By Bassam Bishuti

What price electricity?

God has chosen to teach us that civilisation breaks down when the electricity blacks out. At least this seems to be the only valid conclusion one is enabled to draw from New York's power failure on Thursday. Because when the electricity went out, after a bolt of lightning knocked out the city's supply, people went crazy in an orgy of anarchy: looting shops, starting fires and shooting at each other. When the city's mayor sought an explanation of how this great metropolis could be hit with such an occurrence the chairman of the responsible power company could only blame it on an "act of God".

After the famous 1965 blackout, New York electricity suppliers took all measures to ensure that it would never happen again. That blackout was peaceful except that it produced a plethora of babies nine months later -- without television what do you expect couples to spend a night doing? But after that blackout no one hoped for another and no one expected another. Two days ago, though, it occurred again -- bigger, louder and more violent. It is no wonder, then, that the technical experts could find no explanation for it except that it was God's doing. And it does make sense after what we've seen.

Now, I've lived through at least two weeks of total electrical blackout in Lebanon and, again, there was all you could imagine of fires, looting and killing. But that happened during a war and a war there was not in New York on Thursday. Is God trying to tell us that the veneer of civilisation peels off with the blackout of electricity?

It surely doesn't speak highly of humanity that people will do in the dark what they won't admit to even thinking of in the light. And it won't explain it away, as someone jestingly said, that the reason for what happened is that burglar alarms work on electric power.

3,000 people were arrested in New York for looting during the blackout. In certain

"poor" neighbourhoods not a shop escaped the visitors of the dark. Let's not split hairs. We all know that burglar alarms are necessary because there are burglars. But 3,000 burglars arrested in one day is just too much. Only God knows how many others escaped arrest.

Anyway, what has starting fires to do with burglar alarms? News reports say there were 576 genuine fire alarms -- of a total of 1,625 fire reports. First, tell me what do people enjoy in raising a false fire alarm? I don't know how many of the genuine fires started by an "act of God", but there were many deliberately-started fires. Arson, in the English language. What is it about an electrical failure that entices people to start fires? Is it the darkness? I suppose some people are so worried about the dark that they have to burn something for some light.

And the snipers. Yes, snipers in New York. I won't speculate on the fact that they emigrated from the Lebanese war although this could be the case for I saw no snipers in Beirut during my annual leave there earlier this month -- which, incidentally is why my loyal readers got no absurdities from me in this newspaper for the last two weeks. But back to the snipers: News reports tell us that the blackout produced snipers aplenty and that their particular targets were policemen and firemen busily trying to put out the production of arsonists.

Finally, New York's mayor had to declare a state of emergency and to suggest that people keep off the streets. Think about it, if you may, once the electricity goes off law and order is over. The world's greatest city -- or at least one of its greatest -- the finest example of what civilised human society can create becomes a jungle once the lights are off. A friend of mine used to insist that New York is the Bible's Great Whore, Babylon the Great. After what happened on Thursday I'm inclined to agree that the mystery of that chapter in the Book of Revelation is a mystery no more.

a means of getting confessions. We then showed how the draconian system of military courts works, and we quoted six named advocates with experience of them: "Their unanimous opinion is that the military courts collude in and knowingly conceal the use of torture..."

Israel: "Torture is a crime under Israeli law."

Insight: So it is in most countries that use it.

Israel: "We possess a judicial system which is both fair and of extremely high calibre."

Insight: True. That it what makes its reluctance to confront the issue of torture the more disturbing. For example, we cited a specific case where the Supreme Court dismissed a string of torture allegations solely on the basis of brief statements taken by the police which the plaintiffs could neither see nor challenge and medical reports by doctors who were far from independent. The plaintiffs' lawyer was not even allowed to be in court. We found that procedure remarkable. The Israelis do not deny it.

Israel: "All Israeli prisons are open to inspection."

Insight: Not true. Most of Israel's prisons are open to inspection. But the prisons we cited -- Ramallah, Hebron, Nablus and Gaza -- have special cells, sometimes called X-cells, where prisoners under interrogation are held by the security forces. Those cells and their inmates are not open to inspection, even by the International Red Cross. Nor does the Red Cross -- to anyone else -- inspect the spe-

cial interrogation centres. *Israel: All the people mentioned were convicted terrorists.*

Insight: Not true. Many were never charged, let alone convicted, of anything. In its repeated assertions of this point, moreover, Israel seems to us to come perilously close to implying that if the complainants were terrorists then ill-treatment or torture would be justified.

But our main criticism was of the military courts -- run by soldiers and not by Israel's judiciary -- which, with obvious offences in the occupied territories. We said: "Most convictions in those courts are based on confessions by the accused; most of those confessions, the lawyers are convinced, are extracted by ill-treatment or torture; almost without exception, the courts reject that contention."

Israel: "During 1975, 216 of the persons from the territories brought before military tribunals were given full acquittals; and in 1976, 408 of such persons were given full acquittals."

Insight: Not true. The Israelis have added in acquittals in all the non-security cases that go before the ordinary courts -- and there were 9,070 of those cases last year. (The Israeli foreign ministry admitted this to us last week.) So what are the true figures for acquittals by military courts? They were "not available."

We invite Israel to produce these figures. Incidentally, we do regard this mistake as curious: The figures were omitted from the version of the Israeli statement issued in Jerusalem.

where their inaccuracy would have been readily spotted.

Israel: Insight "grudgingly admit that even the Arab lawyer... knew of five cases where military courts had refused to receive confessions..."

Insight: Far from our being "grudging", we took that to show how rarely it happens, since those five were the lawyer's only successes in well over a thousand cases. We find Israel's use of the word "even" interesting. The lawyer was, as we saw, Wasfi O. Maest, a senior judge under Jordanian rule before 1967, and a respected figure.

Israel: "It is impossible to obtain a conviction based on a confession alone."

Insight: Technically correct, but in practice not true. Israel admits two sorts of corroboration. Truly independent corroboration is needed in cases like rape or when one of a group of accused has been state's evidence. But for a confession, all that is needed is "something" -- in Hebrew *dvar-ma* -- and the military courts have reduced this to a minimum.

In most cases before them, it now consists of a "reconstruction report" by police who have photographed the defendant at places mentioned in his confession. The police then say that the picture was taken as the defendant pointed out to them what he did. Or the "something" may be the finding that a third party named in a confession does exist. Military courts do not require truly independent evidence.

(To be continued)

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Two Jordanian dailies Friday commented on the Middle East peace plan as devised by Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, while a third commented on the question of the creation of a Palestinian state.

AL DUSTOUR, in an editorial entitled "Begin and the West Bank," said that one can clearly conclude from Mr. Begin's statements and the peace plan he carries to President Carter, as leaked by the Israeli propaganda machine, that Israel still intends to hold on to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Mr. Begin's plan, the paper went on, allows the Palestinians to participate in a measure of administration while maintaining Israeli military presence there. Such a plan differentiates between administrative, political and military sovereignty, the paper said.

True sovereignty must be undivided, for it consists of an amalgamation of the three mentioned aspects, the paper said. Thus, Mr. Begin's plan is an attempt to isolate and abort the Palestinian case which is at the core of the Middle East conflict.

The paper concluded that Mr. Begin's plan, which is to be suggested to the USA, is really an obstacle to peace. The Arabs at Geneva must be alert and united in order to save the Palestinian case from this attempt to abort it.

AL SHA'B said that in spite of the secrecy surrounding Mr. Begin's "peace" plan, that which was leaked to the Israeli Radio and press shows that the plan is based on the idea of negotiations without preconditions; i.e., these negotiations will consider the different items with no prior definitions or commitments.

The paper said that such an Israeli proposal would have been acceptable had the call for reconvening the Geneva conference, and had the con-

ference itself, basically started from a void. The truth is that the call to Geneva came after many pretexts and it was made in order to discuss the means by which to implement the specific U.N. Resolutions Nos. 242 and 338. The paper added that in going to Geneva the least the participants should do is to begin by committing themselves to the U.N. resolutions. Thus the Israeli contention that there are no prior conditions for convening of the Geneva conference is only an escape from committing themselves to these resolutions.

The paper declared in conclusion, that it does not believe that the American side, or any other international body, could accept such an Israeli stand. For such an acceptance would threaten the U.N. with collapse and would endanger world peace.

AL AKHBAR commented on the idea of the creation of a Palestinian state. The paper said that it is too early to talk about the relations between the Jordanian Government and the suggested Palestinian state, for at this stage such a topic is not included in an overall peace settlement with Israel. The paper continued that the basic problem is the differences between the Arabs as a whole and Israel. Inter-Arab relations is a topic which concerns the Arabs alone and should not be included in the vicious circle of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The paper concluded by suggesting that before the Arabs openly discuss, such a thorny problem and allow Israel the opportunity of asking them to resolve their differences prior to discussing an overall settlement, the Arabs must first work for the creation of a Palestinian state before discussing what relations Jordan should have with it.

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Minister of Education Dr. Abdul Salam Majali

A real jack of all trades with no time left for himself

JORDAN'S LEADING FIGURES OPEN THEIR HEARTS

A picture in the newspaper, official statements and political activities on the television, official trips and spectacular meetings with heads of state... This is what ordinary people know about the personalities taking decisions in their country. But one seems to forget that, in fact, these heads of government, ministers, high-ranking officers and director generals are also human beings who have a family life, one or more hobby and who can also laugh and dream.

The Jordan Times has met some of these personalities, who have humbly accepted to reveal the usually hidden aspects of their daily life and who talk of everything with an open heart. We end the series this week with the man who wanted to be a doctor, soldier and teacher -- and achieved what he wanted -- Minister of Education Dr. Abdul Salam Majali.

By Irene Ramadan
Special to the Jordan Times

"And what will you be later in?"

"A doctor, a soldier and a teacher."

"All this at the same time?"

"Of course."

"God help you!"

This dialogue took place in 1938 between Mr. Ahmad Toukan and a little boy of 10 from Karak primary school. At that time, Mr. Toukan was director of the Education Department and the little boy was Abdul Salam Majali, the present Minister of Education.

And God helped the young boy, who was born in Karak in 1925.

"The three fields I have worked in have a lot in common. They all require discipline, team work, sacrifice and a generous attitude. And this also applies to the family circle."

A rich career

The career of Dr. Majali seems very diversified, whereas it really has many points in common. After graduating from the Royal College of Sur-

geons and Physicians in London, he started work in the medical section of the Arab Legion. Then he worked in several renowned hospitals in London.

Back in Amman he became commanding officer and consultant at the Arab League's hospital.

In 1969 he was named Minister of Health. In 1971 he held the post of Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs. From 1971 to 1976 he was President of the University of Jordan, and since 1976 he has been Minister of Education and Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs.

"I believe that everybody can reach whatever he wants if the general interest of the public is observed and he really has the will to do it. It is not enough just to give suggestions. One has to be very patient and very comprehensive in one's way of trying to initiate or build a new idea."

"When I think of people who have studied abroad, I say that they have to digest what they have learnt, apply it to what is available in their country, and then come out with some-



Family portrait: Minister of Education Abdul Salam Majali poses with his Scottish-born wife Joan Mary and their three children.

thing that suits their environment."

While he was house surgeon in the Royal National Hospital in London in 1953, Dr. Majali met his wife -- Scottish-born Joan Mary Nachman -- who was a nurse in the same hospital. And they married in 1956. Now they have three children: Samer (20), who is studying aeronautics in London, Suzan (17), who has just finished secondary school and will start work as a nurse next year and Shadi-Ramzi (15), who is still at school, but wants to be a pilot.

College for nursing

It is worth recalling that in 1962 Dr. Majali contributed to women's lib. He worked very hard to get nurses accepted

in military hospitals. Then, after bringing in nurses from abroad he helped establish the Princess Musa College for Nursing in 1962. It took time to convince people that a qualified nurse is as important for a patient as a good doctor. Another problem was to convince soldiers' families to be treated in military hospitals.

All these efforts persuaded many women to join the various sections of the army.

"One wonders what makes manhood superior to womanhood. The muscle or the money? Does a woman have to be physically strong, highly intellectual or shrewd to fulfill the same responsibility and the same work as a man? It is neither this nor that. The social emancipation of women is a matter of education, not a matter of confrontation and struggle. The more she acquires knowledge, the more she will be able to share the pro-

fessional life of the man."

Escaping routine

The minister of education is always preoccupied with escaping routine and launching new ideas to develop the country.

"The aim of an intellectual and an educated man must not only consist in doing his job perfectly like any other professional. He also has to pass on ideas and knowledge to those who did not have the same chances he had," Dr. Majali stated.

This willingness to give something to others, at whatever cost is the forte of the minister of education. When he was 10, he used to gather his friends together and promise to pay half a piastre to each if they agreed to "play school" with him. Dr. Majali, of course, was the teacher and the other children the pupils. And he always had something to teach them.

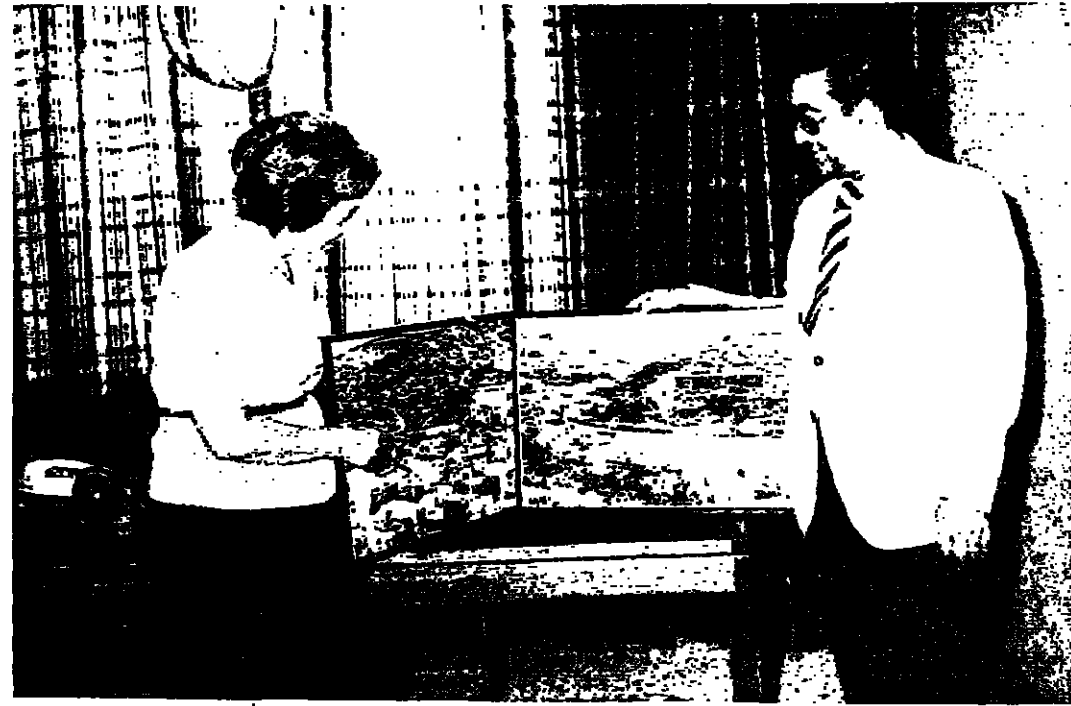
When asked what he thinks of the new educational system, the minister said:

"Whether modern or not, the system must never lose its spirit and its content. In a few words, I would say one has to teach essentials and encourage the self-learning process."

The Majali tribe

Dr. Majali has not changed since he was a child. Now he remains quite an active man. Besides his official job as minister, he does a lot of other things. He is a member of the Medical Association, the Association of Surgeons, the National Planning Council, the Board of Trustees of Amman Civil Hospital, now the University of Jordan hospital. He is also an associate member of the Association of Military Surgeons of America and a member of the Council of the United Nations University in Tokyo.

Very little time is left for



Abdul Salam Majali and his wife survey the progress Amman has made over the past century.

the minister's hobbies: Swimming and playing cards.

"When you are a doctor, 70 per cent of your time is not yours. When you get married you lose another 10 per cent. Then add 20 per cent for the children," Dr. Majali explained, laughing.

And when you are a minister? "You lose another 20 per cent."

So the minister of education has less than no free time.

But there is something for which Dr. Majali always finds time: Seeing his family. He regularly goes to Karak to see his eight brothers, five sisters and their wives, husbands and children -- a total of 70 people. Or, alternatively, they come to Amman. And when the members of the Majali tribe get together, it never fails to be a good time both for the adults and the younger generation.



Part of the "Majali tribe" comes to visit the minister of education at his Fifth Circle home.



The minister of education takes a breather in what has become a life without free time.

Prince Hassan opens chemists meeting today

AMMAN (JNA). -- His Highness Crown Prince Hassan will open a conference of the Federation of Arab Chemists here Saturday.

The two-day conference to be held at the University of Jordan, will discuss the federation's organization and scientific questions. Committees will approve the items on the agenda after discussion.

Chemists from all over the Arab World will participate, as well as representatives of the Arab Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation, the Arab Centre for Industrial Development and the Regional Centre for Science and Technology.



The family rests outside in the sun.

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British unions react angrily

Healey insists on 10% wage increase ceiling

LONDON, July 15 (R). — Britain's Labour government, which has failed to reach a precise agreement with the unions on pay restraint, today insisted that workers must still keep the total national wage increase to not more than 10 per cent.

But despite stern warnings about the economy delivered to a packed Parliament by Chancellor of the Exchequer Denis Healey, there was an immediate angry reaction from

many parts of the powerful trade union movement.

Mr. Healey acknowledged that the government and unions cannot agree on a set limit as they have done for the past two years. But he appealed for individual settlements to stay on single figures and keep to his national 10 per cent ceiling to stop inflation soaring again.

Thumping out the arguments he has repeated for several years to his disgruntled Labour supporters, Mr. Healey said the country faced a choice which would determine whether, by getting a sustained fall in the rate of inflation, it could profit fully from its North Sea oil wealth.

But within hours of his speech, railway men called for a 63.5 per cent pay increase next April and a coal mine union chief said Mr. Healey's proposals were "totally unsatisfactory".

The Coalminers' Union, which brought down a previous Conservative government over a pay conflict in 1974, had already voted for a 90 per cent pay rise from next November. Scottish regional leader Mick McGahey told reporters this claim would go ahead.

Mr. Emlyn Williams, leader of the South Wales Miners, said: "It looks or the cards as if there's going to be a real conflict between the government and miners."

The government and leaders of the Trades Union Congress (TUC) accepted during the past

few days that they cannot reach a new policy similar to the past two years which saw first a ceiling of 10 per cent and then one of four and a half per cent.

The government decided to draw up its own plans independently. Mr. Healey today offered some concessions, cutting taxes and increasing some social allowances.

But he stressed: "The government continues to regard the mastery of inflation as a precondition for returning to full employment."

Iranian scientists tour Soviet nuclear plants

MOSCOW, July 15 (R). — A five-man team of Iranian scientists is touring the Soviet Union to inspect nuclear power stations, an embassy spokesman said today.

The delegation, led by Dr. Akbar Etemad, head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation, arrived on Wednesday and would stay about a week more. No details of their programme were disclosed.

Dr. Etemad is to resume negotiations with the United States at the end of this month on buying up to eight nuclear power plants worth some \$10,000 million.

The American deal has been stalled by the Carter administration's insistence on stringent safeguards against Iran developing nuclear weapons.

But Dr. Etemad has indicated that Iran is not interested in alternative supplies of reactors from the Soviet Union, although the two countries are cooperating in other nuclear fields. He told a press conference last February in Tehran that Soviet nuclear plants "are not technically acceptable to us."

Turkey eyes bumper crop

ANKARA, July 15 (R). — Turkey is hoping for another bumper crop year which is expected to produce exportable surpluses of wheat and barley and boost stocks of traditional exports such as cotton, according to official estimates.

Central Bank officials, with an eye on the nation's critical foreign exchange shortage, are hoping the high production levels will be translated into export sales. Agricultural exports accounted for \$1.2 billion last year — more than 60 per cent of Turkey's export earnings.

Official statistics project a fourth consecutive excellent year for agriculture. Pure cotton production is expected to rise to 617,000 tons, compared to 470,000 last year, according to estimates by the

Lufthansa announces 7% dividend

COLOGNE, West Germany, July 15 (R). — The West German airline Lufthansa yesterday announced a seven per cent dividend for shareholders with profits four times greater in 1976 than the previous year.

Announcing a net profit of 112.3 million marks (about £28 million) in 1976, Board Chairman Herbert Culmann also forecast good results for 1977.

He said Lufthansa expected to be among the leading international airline operators again this year.

Turnover in 1976 was 3.94 billion marks (nearly £1 billion). Of the net profits, which are four times greater than in the previous year, Dr. Culmann said 70.3 million marks (about £17.5 million) would be put to reserve funds.

The remaining 42 million marks (over £10 million) would be paid out to shareholders. The airline is partly private and partly state-owned.

Egypt receives loan to widen Suez Canal

CAIRO, July 15 (AFP). — The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development decided yesterday to lend Egypt \$41.5 million to widen the Suez Canal, it was learned here.

The loan will help to finance the first stage of improvements to the international waterway. The rate of interest will be 4 per cent and the amount will be repayable over 20 years, with five years' grace.

The Saudi Arabian Development Fund signed an agreement on June 11 to lend Egypt \$5 million for the project.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Following are official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian fils for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:

Saudi riyal	92.5	93.0
Lebanese pound	107.5	108.0
Syrian pound	80.9	81.2
Iraqi dinar	940	945
Kuwaiti dinar	1137	1141
Egyptian pound	467	477
Libyan dinar	740	750
UAE dirham	83.5	84.5
U.K. sterling	569	575
U.S. dollar	330	332
German mark	140.3	140.7
French franc	67	67.3
Swiss franc	132.3	132.7
Italian lira (for every 100)	34.7	37.6

New York power failure closes stock markets

NEW YORK, July 15 (R). — The massive power failure which disrupted New York City yesterday also closed stock markets in the city and several other parts of the country.

In New York, both the stock exchange and the foreign exchange shut down and banks remained closed.

Because the city serves as the financial centre for the country, exchanges in several other cities also decided to suspend trading.

They included the Chicago Board of Trade, which handles commodities, the Chicago Mercantile and Monetary Markets, and the Philadelphia Exchange.

Some exchanges decided to have limited hours of trading while others, including the Pacific Stock Exchange in Los Angeles were open for normal trading.

U.S. oil company markets new graphite fuel for cars

NEW YORK, July 15 (AFP). — The oil company Atlantic Richfield began yesterday marketing in the United States a new fuel for motorists blending graphite with premium-grade petrol.

The mixture is dearer than high-grade petrol but is claimed to give more miles per gallon for a given quantity of fuel. It is black and is marketed under the name arc graphite.

A French firm is already marketing a similar product in France and Belgium, but it is the first time that this type of petrol has been sold in this country, a spokesman for the American company said.

Atlantic Richfield said that the particular properties of graphite enabled engines to give a better performance.

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ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

China hails OPEC decision

HONG KONG, July 15 (R). — China yesterday hailed the end of the two-tiered price system as a great victory for third World oil-producing countries. The New China News Agency, monitored here, said in a commentary on the decision of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to return to a single price system as of July 1 this year, that it was "a heavy blow for the superpowers."

Scientist reveals sea's uranium reserves

LONDON, July 15 (AFP). — Although the world is faced with a very large shortage of uranium reserves by the end of the century, an estimated 4,000 million metric tons are available from marine sources, a British scientist said yesterday. Speaking at Southampton University, N.J. Keen, of the atomic energy research establishment, Harwell, said that the sea contained such a tonnage and that it was dispersed "fairly uniformly."

Japanese steel production decreases

TOKYO, July 15 (AFP). — Japanese steel production decreased by 8.4 per cent in the first half of this year to 51,865,000 tons compared with the preceding six-month period. Preliminary figures reported yesterday by the Japan Iron and Steel Federation showed that ordinary steel accounted for 45,236,000 tons, 8.3 per cent less, and special steel for 6,629,000 tons, down 8.9 per cent.

N. Yemen to hold development conference

SANA, July 15 (R). — An international conference to discuss North Yemen's five-year development plan will be held in Sana next November, government sources said today. Representatives from the United Nations and Arab and friendly countries will be invited and the Sana government is expected to seek financial aid estimated at 2,000 million Yemeni rials (about \$440 million), the sources added.

FURNISHED HOUSE

Independent, Swedish style, central heating, nice garden consisting of: One bedroom, one salon, and kitchen. Located near Orthodox Kindergarten in Shmelsani. For inquiry please contact tel. 62548.

NOTICE

A well-trained and experienced baby sitter, cook and house keeper is looking for a job. Full-time or part-time, preferably with Americans or Britons. If interested please call 83130, Zarqa.

FURNISHED HOUSE FOR RENT

A house consisting of two bedrooms, salon, dining room, reception room and veranda. Central heating. Situated at Hussein Housing Suburb. Contact 37097.

Sunday's races at the Royal Racing Club - Marka

FIRST RACE — 3:30 p.m.

FOR LOCAL COUNTRY HORSES, BEGINNER

DISTANCE 1,400 METRES

1. H.H. Sharif Hussein Ibn Naser	ZAD EL RAKIB	Ibrahim	Atieh	55.5
2. Sharif Nofah Naser	KILADH	Ibrahim	Ibrahim	51.5
3. Rashid Odeh	SIT EL KHAIL	Khalaf	Salameh	55.5
4. Rashid Odeh	SAKIR	Khalaf	Silmi	54
5. Daifallah Mohammad	RIDA	Sadoon	Talal	55.5
6. Ali A. Soukout	M. RAIED	Owner	Mousa	53
7. Faiek Kavar	JAWAHIR	Bilon	Dialbis	51.5
8. Ghalib Haddadin	ARBEED	Marmar	Khalaf	47
9. Ghalib Haddadin	NADWAN	Owner	Atieh	47

SECOND RACE — 4:00 p.m.

FOR BEGINNER HORSES

DISTANCE 1,400 METRES

1. Sali H. Majali	RADDAD	Ali	Mousa	54
2. Nadin S. Al Dajani	MAHIR	Saleh	Ahmad	54
3. Samer Farkoub	NAMNOUM	Marmar	Salameh	54
4. H.H. Sheikh Khalifeh Al Thani	JAMILEH	Khoury	Kizzi	52.5
5. Faiek Kavar	BIN EL REEH	Bilon	Dialbis	52.5
6. Ismail Salem	EL KHANSA	Bilon	Radwan	52.5
7. Wassef Bisharat	B. IBRAHIM	Bilon	Mikhal	46.5

THIRD RACE — 4:30 p.m.

FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES

DISTANCE 1,600 METRES

1. H.H. Sheikh Khalifeh Al Thani	TILMIZEH	Khoury	Kizzi	54.5
2. Marwan S. Lallas	MOUHHB	Marmar	Salameh	54
3. Mazin S. Lallas	SINNAH	Marmar	Ibrahim	50
4. Wassef Bisharat	ZORAAH	Bilon	Mikhal	54
5. Khalil Borqan	BOSHRAN	Marmar	—	54
6. Bahjat Fanous	A. EL HAWA	Owner	—	54

FOURTH RACE — 5:00 p.m.

FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES

DISTANCE 1,400 METRES

1. Wassef Bisharat	MOSTNIK	Bilon	Mikhal	54
2. Mousa Faris	RADHAN	Ibrahim	Ibrahim	54
3. Jean Siznik	ANBAR	Saleh	—	54
4. Bahjat Fanous	SULTAN AL MIDAN	Owner	Radwan	54
5. H.H. Sheikh Khalifeh Al Thani	AJEEL	Khoury	Kizzi	53
6. H.H. Sheikh Khalifeh Al Thani	NAVARTITI	Khoury	Jamal	52.5
7. Sami Yaqoub	HILDA	Kamal	Mousa	52.5
8. Tawfiq Ksous	EL HABBAB	Marmar	Salameh	51

FIFTH RACE — 5:00 p.m.

FOR SECOND CLASS HORSES

DISTANCE 1,600 METRES

1. Tawfiq Ksous	SABIR AYYOUB	Marmar	Ibrahim	50
2. Tawfiq Ksous	HADID	Marmar	Atieh	48
3. Sami Yaqoub	FAWWAR	Kamal	Mousa	50
4. Yousef Kittaneh	NASSAF	Marmar	—	50
5. H.H. Sheikh Khalifeh Al Thani	EL SABIK	Khoury	Kizzi	48
6. Khalil Borqan	TULL	Marmar	Salameh	48
7. Samer Farkoub	NAHLAWI	Marmar	Khalaf	48
8. Ali A. Soukout	WADI AMAL	Owner	Mikhal	48

SIXTH RACE — 6:00 p.m.

KAMAL BISHARAT PRIZE JD 2,000

FOR BEGINNER HORSES

DISTANCE 1,600 METRES

1. Mousa Salameh	DAMIR	Owner	Radwan	54
2. Rashid Odeh	MARJAN	Khalaf	—	54
3. H.H. Sheikh Khalifeh Al Thani	FAYZEH	Khoury	Kizzi	52.5
4. Faiek Kavar	YAMAMER	Bilon	Dialbis	52.5
5. Faiek Kavar	KAWAKIB	Bilon	—	50
6. Faiek Kavar	FAIROZEH	Bilon	—	48.5
7. H.H. Sharif Jamil Ibn Naser	BAHIR	Ibrahim	Ibrahim	50
8. H.H. Sharif Hussein Ibn Naser	I. EL KHAIL	Ibrahim	Atieh	50
9. Marwan S. Lallas	NASRAH	Marmar	—	48.5
10. Sami Yaqoub	GARDINIA	Kamal	Mousa	48.5

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market was mixed Friday in quiet trading, dealers said. At 15:00 the F.T. index was up 5.3 at 455.2.

The government's announced economic measures were much in line with expectations but abandonment of a formal pay policy was an adverse factor, dealers said. The retail price index increase has little impact, they added.

Short-dated government bonds met some selling and finished up to 1/4 down, while long-dated issues fell up to 3/8.

Rises among equity leaders were pared, but net gains ranged to about 5p. There was little interest in golds, U.S. and Canadian issues.

Thorn was up 10p in a thin market while Shell and EMI rose 5p. Gains of between 2p and 4p were seen in Glaxo, Bats, Tube, and GEC. Banks added between 2p and 5p but Natwest finished unchanged.

Gold price not received.

CAR FOR SALE

1976 Dodge Coronet, automatic,

from the CARROLL RIGHTER INSTITUTE

U.S., N. Korea discuss helicopter incident

SEOUL, July 15 (R). — U.S. and North Korean negotiators were meeting today to discuss the exchange of a captured American airman and the bodies of three colleagues killed when their helicopter was shot down over North Korea.

Diplomatic sources believe the tone set at the meeting, at the Panmunjom armistice

village on the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) north of here, could reflect the possibility of an improvement in the normally frigid atmosphere between Washington and Pyongyang.

The twin-engine U.S. Chinook transport helicopter was shot down about 5 kms. inside North Korean territory on Thursday after apparently losing

its way.

The North Koreans said the wounded man was receiving medical attention, but gave no indication of when he, or the bodies of his dead colleagues, would be returned.

Going on past experience it could be several months before the return of the crew is secured. The 32-strong crew of the U.S. spy ship Pueblo were released after 11 months, and only when the then senior U.N. Command delegate signed a confession of espionage which he subsequently repudiated.

Almost a year later the North Koreans released, after 14 weeks, the three-man crew of a U.S. helicopter they had forced down, after insisting on an apology for a "criminal act" which was also later repudiated.

However, U.S. officials here are optimistic that faster progress will be made in the negotiations tomorrow between U.S. R. Adm. Warren Hamm and a senior North Korean officer.

They point not only to President Carter's statement acknowledging a navigational error, and declaring that the United States does not want confrontation with the North, but also to the generally reasonable tone adopted by Pyongyang in its comments on the affair.

A statement yesterday by the official Korean Central News Agency referred to the shooting down as an "unhappy incident" and eschewed the strident rhetoric it has previously employed on similar occasions.

Compromise agenda hailed at Belgrade

BELGRADE, July 15 (AFP). — Neutral and non-aligned nations today presented a nine-point compromise agenda which observers believed could break a month-long deadlock at the preparatory meeting of the 35-nation European Conference on Security and Cooperation in Belgrade.

Polish delegate Marian Dobrosielski said the proposed agenda would serve as an "excellent basis for work". Belgian delegate Jacques Laurent also praised the non-aligned draft.

The Polish delegate said seven of the nine points in the proposed agenda had won approval from all sides. The non-aligned draft had been circulated informally inside the conference for several days.

The two sticking points, the Polish delegate said, dealt with whether the main high-level conference to be held here this autumn should be divided into two sections and the meeting's closing date.

The American delegation has insisted that the conference

should hold separate discussions on past implementation of the final act of the 1975 Helsinki summit, notably to include a discussion on human rights. Socialist countries are equally insistent that the meeting should concentrate on ways of strengthening East-West détente in the future.

The non-aligned draft agenda does not spell out whether past performance in détente and suggestions for the future should be discussed separately. The Belgrade meeting is the follow-up conference to the Helsinki summit.

The second contentious point is the result of demands by the socialist countries, and notably by Poland, for the agenda to specify that the conference will end on Dec. 15. The non-aligned draft proposes to fix a closing date but would permit a week-by-week prolongation of the conference.

According to Mr. Dobrosielski, this would be tantamount to an open-ended meeting that could go on indefinitely.

Teng may already have made comeback

PEKING, July 15 (AFP). — Former Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping may already have made his comeback on the Chinese political scene.

According to a reliable Chinese source Mr. Teng made a major speech at a national scientific conference held in Peking from June 20 to July 7.

Mr. Teng was stripped of all his posts — Senior Vice Pre-

mier, party Vice Chairman and army Chief-of-Staff — in April 1976 as a "right deviationist". He had already been sacked once for exactly the same reasons during the Cultural Revolution at the beginning of 1973, but was rehabilitated in 1975.

There are several other reasons to predict his official rehabilitation in the near future and a public reappearance which has been put off for

months despite statements by several leaders about his "imminent" return.

For the first time the party newspaper the People's Daily indicated today that the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung personally proposed the former leader's rehabilitation in 1973.

Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping is still not named — his name is expected to reappear in the official press only after an official decision by the party's Central Committee — but observers see the use of Mao's authority to support him as a clear indication that the final stage of his rehabilitation is underway.

Another major element: At an exhibition on the late Chou En-lai which opened recently in Peking's History Museum, Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping is shown along with the late premier in 24 photographs during various phases of the career of Mr. Chou, who died in January 1976.

Only the period from 1963-1973, during much of which Mr. Teng was in disgrace, does not include photos of him.

Ghana elections in 1979

ACCRA, July 15 (R). — Ghana's military rulers said yesterday they would hand over power to an elected government on July 1, 1979.

A government statement quoted by the Ghana News Agency (GNA) said this would follow general elections on June 15 and the writing of a new constitution.

Plans to restore an elected government in the west African country were announced on July 1 by the military ruler, Gen. Ignatius Acheampong. His administration took power in a bloodless coup in January, 1972.

He said that a referendum would be held to decide on the form of government to take over from the military and yesterday's statement said this poll was scheduled for March 30 next year.

The referendum is for Ghanaians to say whether they want the military and police included in the next government.

The handover of power will come on July 1, 1979 the 19th anniversary of Ghana becoming a republic. It achieved independence from Britain in 1957.

Gen. Acheampong's coup was the second since independence. The first, in 1966, ended the rule of the late President Kwame Nkrumah and the military administration lasted three years until civil rule returned under Mr. Kofi Busia.

He was deposed by Gen. Acheampong, then a colonel.

125 miners feared dead in Colombia

BOGOTA, July 15 (R). — At least 125 people are feared to have died after an explosion in a Colombian coal mine yesterday, a Colombian civil defence spokesman said here. The spokesman said that 83 bodies had so far been recovered from the Villa Diana mine near the town of Amaga, 350 kms. from here. Police said rescue squads were still searching for victims. A state of emergency was declared in the area following the explosion, one of Colombia's worst mine disasters.

Yugoslavia says it doesn't have proportionately more political prisoners than the Soviet Union

BELGRADE, July 15 (R). — The Yugoslav government yesterday rejected as "politically malicious and incorrect" a report earlier this month by the International League for Human Rights which alleged that Yugoslavia had proportionately more political prisoners than the Soviet Union.

Answering questions at a routine weekly press conference, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said the report was only worthy of the government's attention because it was politically malicious and part of attacks and pressure on Yugoslavia and its independent internal and foreign policy.

The league, which has consultative status with the U.N., said in the report that Yugoslavia held in jails at least 600 political prisoners more in proportion to population than the Soviet Union.

The league said its report was timed to coincide with the Helsinki conference on the Helsinki accord on détente and human rights. It sent copies to the signatories of the Helsinki agreements, including

President Tito and the Secretary General of the United Nations, Dr. Kurt Waldheim.

"From the political, moral and international point of view, the report is incorrect and unqualified," the spokesman said. He added that the aims of the report become clearer when it is known that people who openly support "Yugoslav emigre fascist terrorist groups which attack Yugoslavia's missions abroad" were among the leadership of the league.

The spokesman did not elaborate.

The most irrelevant award of the 13 handed out — for costume design — went to "Femmes de Sade".

Ann Perry, President of the Adult Film Association of America said the organisation had decided to set up the awards to try to get erotic film makers to improve the quality of their films.

of "The Devil in Miss Jones," accepting a best supporting actress award for a film called "Ping Pong".

To tell you the truth I don't remember," which film "Ping Pong" was.

The master of ceremonies, delivering the same gags as in the academy award show, described himself as the "porry Bob Hope".

Even clips of pictures nominated as best film were censored to show all actors fully clothed.

"Deep throat," the pioneer sex film which was given a special award, was edited down to symbolic scenes of fireworks exploding in the sky and a giant bell being rung.

Actors and actresses, appearing to be unsure of what they should say, gave acceptance speeches of no more than a few words as they took the statuette.

Georgina Spelvin, the star

Jews pray for stop to Sabbath traffic

TEL AVIV, July 15 (R). — Thousands of black-garbed Orthodox Jews massed in prayer yesterday in the main street of Bnei-Brak, a north Tel Aviv suburb, to ask for divine help in keeping their district free of traffic on the Sabbath.

Prayers were led by the bearded Rabbi of Sages, a supreme court of venerable rabbis who lead Israel's ultra-Orthodox Jewish community, many of whom live in the suburbs.

But because of the presence in nearby streets of secular Jews, who insist on being allowed to drive their cars to their homes on the Sabbath, there have been clashes and rival demonstrations in Bnei-Brak recently.

Two weeks ago the driver of an open jeep was killed when he crashed into a chain closing a main street on a Sabbath night.

The demonstrators yesterday blew the traditional "shofar" ram's horn trumpets, which are normally heard in synagogues during the high holiday, and chanted prayers of mourning to support their efforts to keep the district closed to traffic on the Sabbath.

S. Africa denies downing Angolan transport plane

PRETORIA, July 15 (R). — South Africa today denied an Angolan accusation that its troops had shot down an Angolan plane, killing 12 people on board.

Military Operations Chief-of-Staff Lt.-Gen. J. R. Dutton said witnesses had confirmed that anti-aircraft fire which brought down the plane at Cuangar, near the border with South West Africa (Namibia), originated inside Angola.

The shooting was a UNITA action, he said in a statement. UNITA (Union for the Total Independence of Angola) has been reported fighting a guerrilla war in southern Angola since it was defeated on the battlefield in the civil war more than a year ago.

Gen. Dutton said a report by the Angolan news agency Angop that South African forces had shot down the plane, an Antonov-26 transport, on Tuesday was completely untrue.

"Cuangar is in Angola and it is impossible for South African Defence Force (SADF) elements to have been able to shoot it down," said Gen. Dutton. South African troops man the borders of South West Africa, which is administered by the Pretoria government.

"In addition, there are eyewitness reports confirming that the anti-aircraft fire came from Angolan territory and that the plane crashed well into Angola," he claimed.

Announcing the composition of his government, the prime minister said he would take personal control of planning and the development of new resources.

Mr. Kamil was the President of the pre-independence governing Council. The former French colony became independent on June 27 this year.

The former Secretary General of the Front for the Liberation of the Somali Coast, Mr. Aden Robleh Awaleh, was

placed in charge of Djibouti Port, strategically placed at the entrance of the Red Sea.

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Sadat proposes new Egyptian law

Death penalty for Moslem apostates

CAIRO, July 15 (R). — An Egyptian Moslem who renounces Islam will face the death penalty if a draft law proposed by President Anwar Sadat goes into the statute book, the semi-official newspaper Al-Ahram reported today.

The draft law will first be discussed by the Ministry of Justice and will then go to the People's Assembly for final approval, the newspaper said.

According to the draft, a Moslem who renounces his faith will be given 30 days to repent. If he or she persists in renouncing Islam the death sentence will be passed.

A clear statement of evidence produced by two other Moslems would be needed to condemn the apostate, the newspaper said.

The law will not apply to non-Moslems, the newspaper said.

There is a Christian minority in Egypt numbering several million.

The new law follows last week's crack down on a Moslem extremist group which considers Egyptian society non-Islamic.

The group known as Al Takfir wal Hijra — Repentance and Flight from Sin — kidnapped and murdered a former cabinet minister and claimed responsibility for several bomb blasts. The group wanted to establish a traditional Islamic state, according to newspaper reports.

The new law will be the second based on Islamic traditions. Last year the government passed a law which banned Egyptians from drinking alcohol in public. Violators face up to three months in jail and fines of 200 Egyptian pounds (same sterling). Since the law was passed, however, not a single prosecution has been reported and Egyptians continue to drink in public.

A parliament official said a third law against adultery was in the making.

According to Islam an adulterous wife and her partner face death by stoning.

The move towards Islamisation of the country, observers say, is an attempt by the government to outflank activities by ultra-Moslem groups. They say it will also satisfy Moslem leaders in the country who are critical of the government for not practicing Islamic traditions.

They point to a recent interview in Al-Ahram newspaper in which Minister of Religious Endowments Metwally Sharawi said: "The government is partially responsible for the emergence of conservative Moslem societies. Islam is not properly taught at schools. Moslem traditions are not observed."

alternatively that a princess can assume the throne if there is no male heir.

If approved by two parliaments with full-term elections between, such a change could take effect no earlier than autumn, 1979.

Prime Minister Thorbjørn Faalund was one of four official witnesses who this morning visited the Royal Palace and certified the birth of Princess Victoria.

Cannons in Stockholm harbour across from the palace, fired a 21-gun salute in her honour. Similar salutes were fired in seven other towns.

The queen, formerly Miss Silvia Sommerlath, daughter of a West German businessman, married King Carl Gustaf here in June 1976.

The couple met during the 1972 Munich Olympics, where Miss Sommerlath worked as a multi-lingual official hostess for important guests attending the games.

The dark-haired, attractive queen has been largely responsible for an upswing in public interest and support for the monarchy here.

Djibouti's premier names new cabinet

DJIBOUTI, July 15 (R). — Djibouti Prime Minister Ahmad Dini Ahmad today named Mr. Abdullah Kamil as Foreign Minister of this newly independent republic.

Announcing the composition of his government, the prime minister said he would take personal control of planning and the development of new resources.

Mr. Kamil was the President of the pre-independence governing Council. The former French colony became independent on June 27 this year.

The former Secretary General of the Front for the Liberation of the Somali Coast, Mr. Aden Robleh Awaleh, was

placed in charge of Djibouti Port, strategically placed at the entrance of the Red Sea.

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Manila peace talks may resume soon

MANILA, July 15 (R). — Stalled peace talks between the Philippines government and Moslem insurgents may resume following the return to Manila of the rebels' chief negotiator, informed sources said today.

The talks collapsed last April amid mutual accusations of bad faith and revived fears that fighting might resume in the five-year-old rebellion of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) in the southern Philippines. A ceasefire has been in force since last December.

Senior MNLF representative, Dr. Tham Manjoors, reappeared in Manila two days ago.

The front is seeking regional autonomy in the south of the mainly-Christian country.

The Conference of Islamic Nations had mandated four of its members — the Libyan Jamahiriya, Somalia, Senegal and Saudi Arabia — to try to revive the negotiations.

Dr. Manjoors declined to comment but a spokesman for him said the MNLF welcomed the conference's initiative.

He said the front was "now

only awaiting the response of the Philippines government."

Since the collapse of the last round of peace talks, there have been several reports of scattered clashes in parts of the southern island of Mindanao, and on the Basilan and Sulu island groups in the far south, where the MNLF had most of its strength.

Both government troops and

rebels sustained casualties.

The Philippines government has been careful not to accuse the MNLF of official involvement in the incidents in the hope apparently of maintaining the tenuous ceasefire.

But following two grenade explosions in southern towns, MNLF members were banned from urban areas without permits.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Court-martial for Israeli major

* TEL AVIV, July 15 (R). — The Israeli army is to court-martial an air force major following a military coroner's inquest into the crash of an helicopter which caused the deaths of 54 soldiers and crew in May this year. The crash occurred during manoeuvres near Jericho in the occupied West Bank. The coroner's inquiry found the crash due mainly to pilot error but pointed to further shortcomings on the part of the unit concerned. The army said the court martial of the major in charge of the helicopter squadron followed a decision by the Judge Advocate General based on the coroner's finding. He is to be charged on two counts: Careless flying in contravention of standing orders, thus endangering life, and conducting a briefing in which he issued orders to his pilots that were against standing orders.

Khaddam to brief Indonesians on M.E.

* DAMASCUS, July 15 (R). — Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam will, next Wednesday, begin an official five-day visit to Indonesia, it was announced here today. The government newspaper Tishrin said Mr. Khaddam would have formal talks with Indonesian officials on international and Middle East developments, questions of mutual interest and bilateral relations. Mr. Khaddam's visit is part of a Syrian drive to explain the Arab case on the Middle East crisis and the need for the early convening of the Geneva conference to achieve a lasting solution. The foreign minister recently paid similar official visits to Italy and France.

Earth tremors in Soviet Central Asia

* MOSCOW, July 15 (R). — Powerful earth tremors registering almost seven points on the 12-point Russian scale shook a wide area of Soviet Central Asia yesterday, Tass news agency reported. The tremors centred on the desert township of Gazli in Soviet Uzbekistan, the scene of a quake last year which left 10,000 homeless. Tass said none of Gazli's houses, rebuilt after last year's nine-point quake, had been destroyed but it gave no indication of casualties. The tremors were also registered in the ancient cities of Bukhara, Samarkand and Tashkent but there were no reports of damage or casualties, the agency said.

James Earl Ray to plead not guilty

* PETROS, Tennessee, July 15 (R). — Mr. James Earl Ray, convicted assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., intends to plead not guilty today to charges of escaping from Brushy Mountain State Prison here, according to his attorney Jack Kershaw. Mr. Kershaw did not explain the grounds on which Mr. Ray would base his plea. Mr. Ray was one of six inmates who escaped from the prison on June 19. He was captured nearly two days later after a massive hunt by police and bloodhounds. Conviction on the escape charge could add up to five years to his 99-year sentence for Dr. King's death.

Israeli police cannot eat in uniform

* TEL AVIV, July 15 (R). — Israeli policemen have been told they may not buy anything or eat in public restaurants while in uniform. The commissioner of police told them even though they pay the full price for what they buy, the public may think they are getting discounts or free goods. Israeli newspapers have recently accused policemen of accepting goods or meals as bribes.

The mansion King Khaled bought

* LONDON, July 15 (R). — Saudi Arabia's King Khaled bought a £1.9 million mansion here only to find his new neighbours are sticklers for legality. So when the king's architects sent in builders to reshape the 143-year-old mansion, which has its own lake and London's biggest private swimming pool, the neighbours complained that the local council had not given building permission. Now Camden Council has banned the builders and a council spokesman said the architects will have to apply for a building permit. Construction might start again in two months — if permission is granted.

مجلس أمناء